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less" (Wood), whereas my specimens uniformly show "a bractlet." No doubt the mistake has been made from the fact that the bractlet is deciduous, falling off some time after the flower opens, indeed, but before the fruit is ripe.

LAFAYETTE, IND.

JOHN HUSSEY.

§ 11. **Plants for Sale.**—Sets of Dr. E. Palmer's Florida and Bermuda marine algæ; also small sets of Kellogg & Hartford's California Plants, and Ghiesbreght's Chiapas (Mexico) Plants for sale with Prof. Daniel C. Eaton, New Haven, Conn.—A few sets of Dr. Palmer's other plants from East Florida and the Keys may be obtained of S. Watson, Cambridge, Mass., at \$8 the hundred.

§ 12. **Silphium.**—Are *Silphium integrifolium* and *S. trifoliatum* now regarded as two distinct species or only varieties of one? I am inclined to the view that they are only varieties. While botanizing on the Western prairies, I have often found two varieties so varying in their characters as to render it very difficult to determine where they should be placed—whether under *S. integrifolium* or *S. trifoliatum* as described by Gray. In 1866, on the prairies of Kansas, I found eighteen stalks or stems growing from one and the same root. Eleven of these stems had their leaves *all opposite* in pairs. Seven of them were trifoliate from the *lowest to the uppermost* leaves. Stems grooved, rather rough, but not 4-angular save a few which were very slightly so: about 5° high: panicle loose: achenia not answering perfectly to the description of either of the above mentioned species.

VINELAND, N. J.

GEO. SCARBOROUGH.

§ 13. **Painesville, Ohio.**—For several years I have noticed that in the autumn *Scirpus atrovirens*, Muhl., and *S. polyphyllus*, Vahl., are frequently *viviparous*, producing on the spikelets small bulbs crowned with small leaves. As the season advances they mature and fall, the heavy end striking the mud. They send out roots (there are rudimentary roots before the bulbs fall) and form new plants.

Mr. Watson informs me that specimens of *S. polyphyllus* showing these viviparous growths are in the Herbarium at Cambridge, collected in Connecticut by Dr. Barratt and in Virginia by Mr. Curtiss, but he is not aware that they have been noticed in *S. atrovirens*.

Last year I was fortunate in discovering the long lost *Fissidens hyalinus*, Wils. and Hook., but this year I failed to detect it in the same locality. I send also specimens of *Amarantus Blitum*, L., and *Hydrodictyon utriculatum*, Roth, collected in this vicinity.

H. C. BEARDSLEE.

§ 14. **Supposed revival of an ancient plant.**—Th. Heldrich, Prof. of Botany in Athens, thinks that an unknown *Glaucium* which has appeared among the scoria of the Laurian silver mines may have lain dormant there from the time of the cessation of the working of these mines, 40 years B. C., till the recent re-examination of this scoria by the Company whose dispute with the Greek government has of late attracted attention. The locality gives an interest to the story greater than the probability of the supposition.